CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A rubber cylinder sleeve for an offset printing press, the rubber cylinder sleeve having a circumferential direction, an axial direction, and a width in the axial direction, the width having an axial center, the sleeve comprising:

an inner carrier sleeve which can be expanded outwardly using air; and

a rubber covering on the inner carrier sleeve, the rubber covering comprising a layer having compressible layer elements and a layer having elastic layer elements, the elastic layer elements being uniform in the circumferential direction and prestrained to varying degrees in the axial direction so that the sleeve has a tangential elasticity profile which is symmetric with respect to the axial center of the sleeve.

2. A rubber cylinder sleeve as in claim 1 wherein the tangential elasticity profile affects the speed profile of a conveyed paper web in a range of -0.5% to +0.5% across the width of the web.